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Peace Mission Leaving Today

Nanking, Apr. 1.—Nationalist peace delegates are leaving Nanking this morning for Peiping, the Communist capital, where peace negotiations are to open.

Late on Wednesday afternoon policy-makers from the Kuomintang Central Political Council and the Central Executive Committee met the peace delegates under the chairmanship of Acting President Li Tsung-jen who, it is reported, told the meeting that he sincerely wanted peace with the Communists.

On their part the peace delegates appealed to the Kuomintang policy-makers for unity within their ranks as the negotiations are on the point of beginning.

In their turn, the Kuomintang policy-makers told the peace delegation that they should seek a cease-fire along the Yangtze River line immediately formal negotiations open today with the Chinese Reds.

FULL POWERS

This Kuomintang view is reliably reported by sources among the policy makers to have been unanimously expressed after General Pai Chung-hsi from Hankow declared that information from captured Communists indicated that the Red armies are endeavouring to take strategic Anking, on the north bank of Yangtze 200 miles from Nanking, before formal peace talks begin. The policy-makers are further said to have agreed to allow the peace delegates full power to negotiate with the Reds and to reach decisions only, referring back to Nanking those points which they themselves considered necessary. The delegates would be responsible to the Central and the Cabinet, the Legislative Yuan for what is done.

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ONLY ATOM BOMB HAS SAVED EUROPE FROM REDS

Britain's Big Surplus

London, Mar. 31.—Britain ended the financial year tonight with a surplus of £831 million—£42 million more than was estimated. Official figures also show that Britain had a net increase in revenue compared with last year of £103,153,151. The revenue, according to Treasury returns, stands at £4,007 million—£242 million more than the Budget provision. Expenditure at £3,176 million is £200 million more than was estimated.—Reuter.

Daring Robbery By Bandits

Rangoon, Mar. 31.—Bandits overpowered a police escort today and robbed a paymaster of 51,000 rupees belonging to the British-owned Burma Oil Company, in a daring robbery just across the river from Rangoon.

The robbers disarmed the police escorting the firm's two-week payroll of 51,000 rupees, then relieved the paymaster of the money. The men then forced the driver of the company car to drive them to safety.

Meanwhile, the political situation here was tense following the Socialist declaration that they would leave the government and not go underground if the opposition could restore law and order and guarantee democratic rights.

It has become risky to walk the streets at night due to constant street fights in the city. Last night, gangsters threw three grenades at a local police station.—United Press.

Churchill's Strong Criticism Of Soviet Russia

CHINA'S COLLAPSE A DISASTER

Boston, Mar. 31.—Mr Winston Churchill tonight said Russia would have communised Europe some time ago but for the atomic bomb which the United States possessed. Addressing 13,900 persons in the Boston Garden, Mr Churchill said a handful of men in the ruling Russian Communist Politburo aimed to rule the world. "I must not conceal from you the truth as I see it," he said.

The 74-year-old wartime British Prime Minister added: "It is certain Europe would have been communised and London under bombardment some time ago but for the deterrent of the atomic bomb in the hands of the United States." He said Russia united the free world against it by deliberate acts because the men in the Kremlin "fear the friendship of the West more than its hostility."

"Fourteen men in the Kremlin, holding down hundreds of millions of people and aiming at the rule of the world, feel that at all costs they must keep up the barriers. Self-preservation, not for Russia but for themselves, lies at the root and is the explanation of their sinister and malignant policy."

Kremlin's Churches Of Communism

"These 14 men in the Kremlin have their churches of Communism, whose missionaries in every country as fifth columnists, awaiting the day when they hope to be the absolute masters of their fellow countrymen... they have their anti-god, religion."

"Behind this stands the largest army in the world in the hands of a government pursuing imperialist expansion as no Czar or Kaiser had ever done. Failure to strangle Bolshevism at its birth... lies heavy upon us today."

Mr Churchill made his speech at the three-day Mid-Century Convocation of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

His immediate audience included hundreds of the world's leading thinkers and men of affairs here to exchange ideas on "The 20th Century—Its Realisation and Promise."

Mr Churchill was also accorded a radio and television audience of almost unprecedented magnitude. It was his first public speech in the United States since his historic address at Fulton, Missouri, three years ago this month, when he coined the phrase "iron curtain" to describe Russia and her satellites.

WAR NOT INEVITABLE
Tonight, Mr Churchill said war was not inevitable and he did not think violent or capital action should be taken now to stem the encroachment of Communism.

"Under the impact of Communism, all the free nations of the world are being welded together as they never have been before and never could be but for the harsh external pressure to which they are being subjected."

He added that, "for good or ill," air mastery today was the supreme expression of military power and that the world must be subordinate, and he said that radar and the airplane combined might exterminate the submarine.

Mr Churchill said the Russian stand had resulted in the present "cold war" in East-West relations, which was without precedent in history and had resulted in measures and counter-measures which in any previous period could only have meant armed conflict.

However, he said, the West was winning the "cold war" in Europe and had not yet suffered a complete defeat in the Orient. He said the Berlin airlift alone "has been an object lesson to the German people far beyond anything that words could convey."

He warned the Western powers not to lose the advantage by any "needless provocations of German sentiment."

LOOK TO ASIA

"On the other hand, he said, the question 'Are we winning the cold war?' could not be decided by looking at Europe alone. He said: "We must also look to Asia. The worst disaster since our victory has been the collapse of China under Communist attack and intrigue. China, in which the United States has always taken a high interest, comprises an immense part of the population of the world. Absorption of China and India into the Kremlin-controlled Communist empire would certainly bring measureless bloodshed and misery to eight or nine hundred million people."

Mr Churchill then warned that India must not be allowed to follow China's path. He warned also that Communism's ability to exploit worldwide hopes, fears and grievances gave Russia a "weapon Hitler never had."

Referring to the Versailles peace conference, Mr Churchill

said: "After four and a half years of hideous mechanical slaughter, illuminated by infinite sacrifice but not remarkably relieved by strategy or generalship... the doctrine of self-determination was not the remedy for Europe, which needed above all things unity and larger groupings."

CRAZY DELUSION

"The idea that the vanquished could pay the expenses of the victors was a destructive and crazy delusion. Failure to strangle Bolshevism at its birth and to bring Russia, then prostitute, by one means or another into the general democratic system lies heavy upon us today. Had the League of Nations been absolutely sustained and used, it would have saved us all."

"The United Nations organization has so far been rent and distracted by the antagonism of Soviet Russia and by the fundamental schism which has opened between Communism and the rest of mankind. But we must not despair. We must persevere, and, if the gulf continues to widen, we must make sure the general peace of freedom is defended by all resources of combined forethought and science. Here lies the best hope of averting a third world struggle and a sure means of coming through it without being enslaved or destroyed."

WARNINGS VINDICATED

"Three years ago, I spoke at Fulton under the auspices of President Truman. Many people here and in my own country were startled, even shocked, by what I said. But events have vindicated and fulfilled in much detail the warnings I deemed it my duty to give at that time."

"Today there is a very different climate of opinion. I am in cordial accord with much that is being done. We have as dominating facts the famous Marshall aid, new unity in Western Europe, and now the Atlantic Pact."

"In my own country, the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Bevin, who has come here to sign the Atlantic Pact, has shown himself indifferent to mere Party popularity in dealing with these great national issues. He has shown himself, like many American public men above, more partisan interest in dealing with these national and world issues."

ASTOUNDING POLICY

"No one could, however, have brought about these immense changes in the feeling of the United States, Britain and Europe but for the astounding policy of the Russian Soviet government. We may well ask: 'Why have they deliberately acted so as to unite the free world against them? It is certainly not because there are not able men among them. Why have they done it? I offer you my own answer to this strange conundrum. It is because they fear the friendship of the West more than its hostility. They cannot afford to allow free and friendly intercourse to grow up between the west and they

control and the civilisation of the West."

"The Russian people must not see what goes on outside and the world must not see what goes on inside the Soviet domain. Fourteen men in the Kremlin, holding down hundreds of millions of people and aiming at the rule of the world, feel that, at all costs, they must keep up the barriers. Self-preservation, not for Russia, but for themselves, lies at the root and is the explanation of their sinister and malignant policy."

WITHOUT PRECEDENT

"In consequence, Soviet conduct of relations of Communist Russia with other great powers of the world are without precedent in history. Measures and counter-measures have been taken on many occasions which in any previous period could only have meant armed conflict."

"The situation has been well described by distinguished Americans as a cold war. And the question is asked, Are we winning the cold war?"

"The position in Europe so far has been successfully maintained. The prodigious effort of the Berlin airlift has carried us through winter. Time, though dearly bought, has been gained for peace. The American trying to feed two million Germans in Berlin while the Soviet government was trying to starve them has been an object of admiration."

(Continued on Page 5)



Krishna Venta, of Los Angeles, Calif., who claims to have lived 1,900 years ago, walks with his 34-year-old wife, Ruth, past Westminster Abbey, London.

Syrian President And Premier To Be Banished From Political Life

Damascus, Mar. 31.—President Shukri El Kouatli of Syria and the Syrian Prime Minister, Khalid El Azim, arrested during the military coup d'etat by Colonel Husni Zaim yesterday, will be "banished from Syrian political life," the new regime announced today.

Damascus, the capital city, resumed its normal life today following the seizure of power yesterday. Reports from various parts of the country give no news of further incidents.

The Syrian Parliament, it was expected here, would be dissolved soon and general elections held to return a new Government. Colonel Zaim, who is Commander-in-Chief of the Syrian armed forces, was thought by observers to favour a Coalition.

Muhsen Barazi, a Minister, has been released. All Government departments were open today and work was resumed. Officials who abstained from attending their offices yesterday were immediately dismissed.

Demonstrations supporting the new regime were held by the University and secondary school students. Reports from Beirut said security measures there had been tightened.

CLAIMS POPULAR SUPPORT

Diplomatic offices in Damascus said it was not known if any charges would be preferred against the Syrian President and the Premier, the only Government leaders now in custody.

Colonel Zaim, short, balding, chain-smoking Commander-in-Chief of the Syrian Army, told Reuters that he wanted to set up a democratic Coalition Government. He said the entire Syrian people were behind him in his seizure of power and he only wanted to hold the reins of government for "a day or two."

The armistice negotiations with Israel, he said, will go ahead as scheduled. The opening date will be April 4.

Colonel Zaim, who fought for the Vichy French in Syria in 1942, said negotiations were now going on to form a new Government. Political sources declared today that the task of forming a Government would not be easy. They said Colonel Zaim would probably head a dictatorship until at least the end of April, when he declared he would call for general elections.—Reuter.

EDITORIAL

War Damage Compensation

WITH characteristic vigour, Mr Leonard Gammans the Conservative MP has resurrected in the House of Commons a subject which, in the minds of the average Hongkongite, has been dead and buried for a year—compensation for war damage. Mr Gammans finds it impossible to believe that Hongkong residents who lost property and possessions as a result of the Pacific conflict are to receive no compensation, and if that strikes him more than it does the little man in Hongkong as incredible the difference in state of mind can be explained by the fact that Mr Gammans has had no experience of how the Colony's Government goes about looking after its citizens. Mr Gammans' spirited questions on the subject command admiration, but it is a pity, perhaps, that he was not made more familiar with the background before launching his parliamentary attack. If he had been put into the picture a little more he would not have been the slightest bit astonished at Mr Rees Williams' urbane, but most definite declaration that so far as Hongkong war damage claims are concerned there is no question of any settlement; nor would he have been shocked by the Colonial Office spokesman's subsequent statement: "I regret I cannot promise any new investigations in this matter because it has been announced for a considerable period, and that has been the unalterable decision of the Hongkong Government." There, in that last sentence reposes the full answer to the war damages compensation question. Without any mandate from the people, the Hongkong Government bargained with Whitehall, and together they reached an agreement which was presented to the public on April 27, 1948, whereby the citizens of this Colony renounced all claim to individual compensation out of public funds, and settled in full for (a) abolition from any costs connected with the BMA, (b) £3,250,000 worth of free

grant advances covering a period before and after establishment of the Civil Government, (c) a free grant of £1,000,000 to assist Hongkong in resolving problems arising out of expenditure connected with the war, (d) interest-free loans to a maximum of £3,000,000 to build a new airport, (e) a free grant of £25,000 for the Hongkong University. This agreement was presented as a generous gesture on the part of the Imperial Government, but in fact, of course, it involved a considerable sacrifice by the community of Hongkong, for it is now officially computed that if war damage claims had been met they would have cost £38 million—a great deal more than the Colony's BMA commitments and the Treasury's free grants. Mr Rees Williams argues that Hongkong cannot be treated in the same way as Malaya and Borneo for two reasons: firstly, we had no contributory insurance scheme; secondly, we have made a magnificent economic and financial post-war recovery and our needs are not so great. The first point is indisputable, but that no such scheme operated in Hongkong was not because the people rejected it, but because Government was not willing to push one through, though in other forms of legislation it can be relentless enough. The second argument is true, but only to a point. Most large firms have now been able to write off their wartime losses, but not so the individual who lost his home and practically everything else he possessed. He has had to start from scratch, with no surplus revenue coming in to help him recover losses. The Hongkong Government is credited with having made an unalterable decision—and it was made behind the Colony's back. But the householder, the little man, who lost all, still deserves some consideration, and it is not too late for Government to give him some by informing Whitehall that it would like his claim honoured.

30-Year Old Intellectual Leads Insurrectionists

Saigon, Mar. 31.—The Chinese Communist force, which was reported today to have invaded the northern Tonkin area of French Indo-China, is led by a 30-year-old intellectual named Chu Kai-pi, a traveller from this area told Reuters here today.

He said the Communist band was about 500 strong and included mercenary troops of no political creed.

The raids have taken place around Alao Kai and Hoang Su Phuc, in the Upper Song Koi Valley, which was captured from Vietminh (Indo-Chinese communist) forces during the French winter campaign of 1947-48.

Observers here believed that the attacks were part of a Vietminh organised campaign to control the Chinese frontiers.

The traveller said the French forces on the Upper Song Kai relied for supplies on 20 out-of-date Junkers transport aircraft, as all other forms of communications are impossible.

Two thousand Sphais (cavalry troops) left France for Indo-China today. They are special reinforcements, trained in jungle warfare, a French General Staff officer told Reuters.

He said it was "very likely" that the regiment of Sphais,

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This is the Tee-Shirt you've been waiting for. Trim styling... all-round comfort. Hidden No-Sag shoulder tapes... high crew neck, nylon sewn... extra long tail. These are the new improvements that now make this old favorite worthy of the famous Jockey name.

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WOMANSENSE

FEMININE INTEREST AT IDEAL HOME EXHIBITION

By JOAN ERSKINE

THE Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition, back to its pre-war glory, is an inspiring sight. Twelve acres of it—spread over three floors, with almost six hundred exhibitions—stands artistically scattered over the whole—form a gigantic department store. From the second floor, I had a magnificent view of the entire ground floor, including the Pavilion of Beautiful Things, with its 65 foot cupola surrounded by a 12 foot high golden statue of Britannia, and the Fountain Court before it. A somewhat unreal effect was gained by blue glass silk drapings which hung from the centre of the roof to the side walls, giving a misty appearance to the air.

I had a hard task discovering what was most interesting women—for anything from furniture polish with a lavender scent to a working model of a steel works seemed to be claiming their attention. Women with small children headed like lambs to the Children's Section, where small, fractious, not offspring could be parked for a few hours of fun and free rides at the seaside resort of Nestle Playland, leaving their harassed mothers free to see what they could buy to improve the happy home.

But to narrow down the feminine points of interest, I would say the film fashions, nylon show, and cosmetic and perfume stalls, were the first ports of call.

Notable among the famous manufacturers of perfume was Rimmel, who had a fountain of imported French scent splashing in the middle of the stall. The girl in charge told me innumerable people tried to stand near it—for free! This firm also had soap on their stand that was 100 years old!

Live Model

Max Factor, of Hollywood, created plenty of interest by using a live model on which to demonstrate various points. Another firm of famous nail varnish makers was giving manicures to any members of the public who felt like having their nails "Black Red" or "Tulip Pink" and "Frosted Carmine".

Another firm was doing a roaring trade by selling lipsticks with tiny mirror attached, which fitted into a small scarlet case. In spite of the fact that most make-up is now comparatively easy to obtain in the shops, all the cosmetic manufacturers were selling their wares at the exhibition.

A hairdressing firm had lured a victim into the "chair" and were busily giving her the new short cut, watched with great interest by a large section of women (none of whom had parted—with their tresses). I heard one male onlooker remark enviously: "Good job she can't see what's happening to her hair!" But female opinion, I would like to add, seemed all in its favour.

The British Nylon Spinners section—which they had called "Nylon Come True"—was an enterprising piece of work. We were conducted round by invisible voices which said their little pieces as we reached each scene.

First were three mural pictures showing the woman who ought to be a nylon lover, at three phrases—the young professional woman, the housewife with her child, and the smart middle-aged woman. Then, ever progressed, the voices told us all advantages of the nylon goods we were gazing at—most of us in envy. We all took a very long lingering look into an all-nylon bedroom, with clothes spilling from the wardrobe and suitcase, dresses and night-clothes laid out on the bed, and a very glamorous black and pale blue girle and brassiere for evening wear. The voice told us that even the lampshade and elderdown cover in the room were made of nylon—and that soon, even carpets would be made of it! That caused a ripple of surprise.

Virtues Of Nylon

After this, like an American sponsored commercial programme, four voices sang a little ditty all about the virtues of nylon.

Nylon, nylon, nylon, crackle nylon, nylon satin, nylon tricot—all made up into the daintiest underwear and slimmest of nightdresses—have many points to note. Chief attraction is the fact that they can be washed and will dry in a matter of hours, and then do not need pressing. They are light for travelling, and will emerge from a case looking as fresh and uncumpled as when they were packed. A baby's dress on show had a notice attached stating that it had been worn continuously for two years. It did not show a sign of wear.

Husbands became attentive when they discovered that fishing lines and tennis shoes, rackets, climbing ropes, sails, and raincoats were made of nylon, and could nearly all be washed like fabrics in soap and water. And as a last flip we saw lace and ribbons, gloves and hairnets.

The one thing not exhibited in great quantity was nylon stockings. Perhaps the manufacturers took pity on the many women who would gaze enviously at these sheer things, which are at present helping our export trade.

Film Fashions

"Fashions From The Films," I must report, I found rather disappointing. The gowns shown were mostly from period films—some very beautiful, but not really too elaborate. Films influence fashion to a high degree, so it is a pity our British stars are not given more opportunity to display really striking creations. Most of the evening dresses dripped too much tulle and drapery—clean lines or really original design.

Valerie Hobson, who, with her husband, Anthony Havelock-Allen, has been causing great controversy in the film world by their production of "The Small Voice," a film they made at exceptionally low cost, has

stated that she would like to see more interesting and striking dresses in British films. Ordinary, everyday dresses are useless. In theory it may sound perfect to say that anyone could wear the clothes shown in this or that film. But in reality, women who attend the cinema regularly rarely like to see ordinary clothes. They want to see glamorous, sleek, exciting creation with good line and design.

Gold Embroidery

There are exceptions. The wedding dress made for Anna Neagle is beautiful. Designed by Norman Hartnell, it is white with gold embroidery scattered over dress and veil.

The "theatre" or foyer, in which the stages, with their changing lighting effects, revolve, was designed by Cecil Benton, so well known for his excellent period settings and designs.

Most enjoyable was the "live" showing of dresses worn by Maureen O'Hara in the British film "Britannia Mews," just released. Showgirls who modelled the dresses were picked for 20th Century Fox by Ben Lyon. Sixteen of them work in two shifts. The dresses and coats, period pieces of great beauty, with elaborate bustle backs, tiny muffs, and beautiful curled chignons to match, were shown every quarter-hour. Summing up, I would say the setting was clever, lighting good, period dresses delightful—but a decided lack of originality and brightness is apparent in the other designs.

When Baby Takes A Trip By Air

SCARCELY an aircraft takes off nowadays without one or more babies among the passengers, and in view of the large number of infants who are travelling by air, the BOAC have prepared the following notes for mothers:—

It has been found that the easiest way to carry a baby is in a carry-cot. This is not counted as baggage and it is weighed with the baby and included in his personal weight, while a reasonable number of articles may be placed in the cot, such as napkins, extra baby blankets and woolies which may be needed during flight.

In the aircraft a baby may be put to sleep in the cot. Experience has shown that usually he or she will be more contented in it than when nursed all the

FROM PARIS



Jacques Fath, Parisian designer who helped to introduce the "New Look," swings away from it with this black and white dress with twin peplum.

Walking Good Way to Exercise



A radiant complexion is Movie Star Louise Allbritton's reward for getting plenty of rest, adequate exercise.

By HELEN FOLLETT

WHY not walk towards the good looks goal? Or do you hate to walk? Many women do. Can't spare the time, maybe, or prefer to find any kind of transportation that will save steps. That doesn't make sense. It is impossible to retain the youthful silhouette unless one has a certain amount of exercise, and walking requires no great effort. It is refreshing to the spirit as well as the body.

Start out with the chest lifted, tummy held in, body stretched high. That takes up spinal slack. Drink in the fresh air. The lungs are the ventilating system; give them a chance to do their work and you'll see a pleasing colour in your cheeks. Stale air in the lungs of shallow breathers produces a sense of inertia and listlessness.

With the chest contracted, the heart is hampered and circula-

tion slows up. The breasts are inclined to sag and that won't do these days when it is fashionable to be busty. Remember, your body, like your face, is ever in the making or the unmaking and that many beauty griefs are self-inflicted through ignorance or neglect.

Health talks seldom appeal to the beauty seeker, and to say she is looking for short cuts that she hopes to find in fragrant cosmetics. Cosmetics play an important role, but they must have a background of well-being and vitality.

Just to be mean and to scare her, we wish to say that when she scuttles along the street, and upper back humped, chest flat, tummy pushed forward, she is anything but an attractive sight. Let her pull up her backbone, breathe deeply and she will become deeply energised and vibrant. Furthermore, she will look it.

Let's Eat

BY IDA BAILEY ALLEN



South American Recipes

"HELLO, hello, Mother: surprise! Here I am back from South America with a load of new recipes for you."

It was my young daughter, Ruth Elizabeth, phoning from the airport. At lunch she gave me what might be termed a food-view of her trip.

"First and foremost," she said, "South American foods are well-seasoned. They use herbs: garlic, thyme, marjoram, dill, parsley, chives, tarragon, and also bay leaves, all the spices, curmin and celery seed, saffron, chili and a flock of the hot peppers—besides hand-milled black pepper. Not all at once, of course, but nicely combined and blended to make even the plainest foods appetising."

"Which is just what the Chef and I are doing in our column," I observed. "What food impressed you most in Brazil?"

"The shrimp," she said. "Beautiful great big shrimp served in so many ways. Whenever they are plain boiled, a herb bouquet is used in the water, as well as a bay leaf, some peppercorns and allspice. This gives them a wonderful flavour. Sometimes they are creamed with celery, or made into a casserole with tomatoes and rice. And for special service, they're often egg and crumbed, just as you do croquettes, then fastened together in pairs with toothpicks, and fried in deep fat, and served with sauce tartare."

Ruth leafed through her note book. "Here are some recipes. I'm sure your readers will like," she said.

Dinner

Honeydew Melon with Ham Tidbits
Fish Steaks Argentina
Crispy Rolls
Cubed Fried Potatoes
Sauteed Green Corn Kernels
Brazil Banana Custard
Hot or Iced Coffee or Tea
Milk (Children)
All Measurements Are Level
Recipes Serve Four

Honeydew Melon with Ham Tidbits

Chill honeydew melon and cut in half-moon sections; scrape off the seeds. Arrange each piece individually on a service plate with a wedge of lime on one side, and on the other 2 very thin small pieces of sour rye bread covered with thin slices of cooked ham, any

kind. Or use Smithfield ham spread.

Fish Steaks Argentina

This may be made of any kind of fish steaks or fillets such as red snapper, halibut, swordfish, salmon, codfish, haddock, or flounder. Melt 2 tbs. butter or margarine in a shallow, oil-sized kettle or deep frying pan. Add ¼ c. fine-chopped onion and slow-fry until yellow. Stir in 1 tsp. flour. Mix and let it brown. To this add 1 (No. 2) tin tomatoes, 1 section minced garlic, 2 tbs. minced parsley, ¼ tsp. marjoram, 1 bayleaf, ¼ tsp. powdered allspice, a few grains cayenne, the juice of ½ lemon, 1 tsp. sugar, 1 tsp. salt, ¼ tsp. pepper and 1 c. water. Stir until well mixed and boiling. Then simmer about 10 min. To this add the fish, and continue to barely simmer until it is tender.

Allow about 15 min. for steaks cut ½ in. thick; 12 to 15 min. for thin fillets. Arrange the slices of fish in the centre of a heated, large, deep platter. Pour the sauce over and garnish with cubed fried potatoes and plenty of crisp parsley or cress.

Cubed Fried Potatoes

Thin-peel and cut raw potatoes into half-inch dice. Rinse and drain on absorbent paper. In a small, deep kettle or heavy sauce pan put shortening or lard to the depth of about 2 in. Heat until it will brown a bit of bread in 1½ min. at 325 F. Carefully spoon in the prepared potato and fry until golden brown. Remove with a perforated spoon; turn onto crumpled paper to drain; dust with salt and serve at once.

Brazil Banana Custard

Peel and slice 3 good-sized firm bananas ½ in. thick. Place in layers in a buttered deep plate, sprinkling between each layer ¼ tsp. flour. Cover with 2 c. plain custard mixture. Bake until firm in the centre in a slow oven, 325 F. allowing about 40 min. The custard should not boil in the centre, or it will become "watery." Chill and serve plain, or with cream or stewed raspberries or plums. Custard Mixture: Beat 2 eggs only until well blended; add 1 cup sugar, ¼ cup salt, the grated rind of ¼ lemon (or add ½ tsp. vanilla), and stir in 2 c. whole milk; or use diluted evaporated milk or reconstituted dried milk. Use as directed above.

FOR ENGLISH CHILDREN

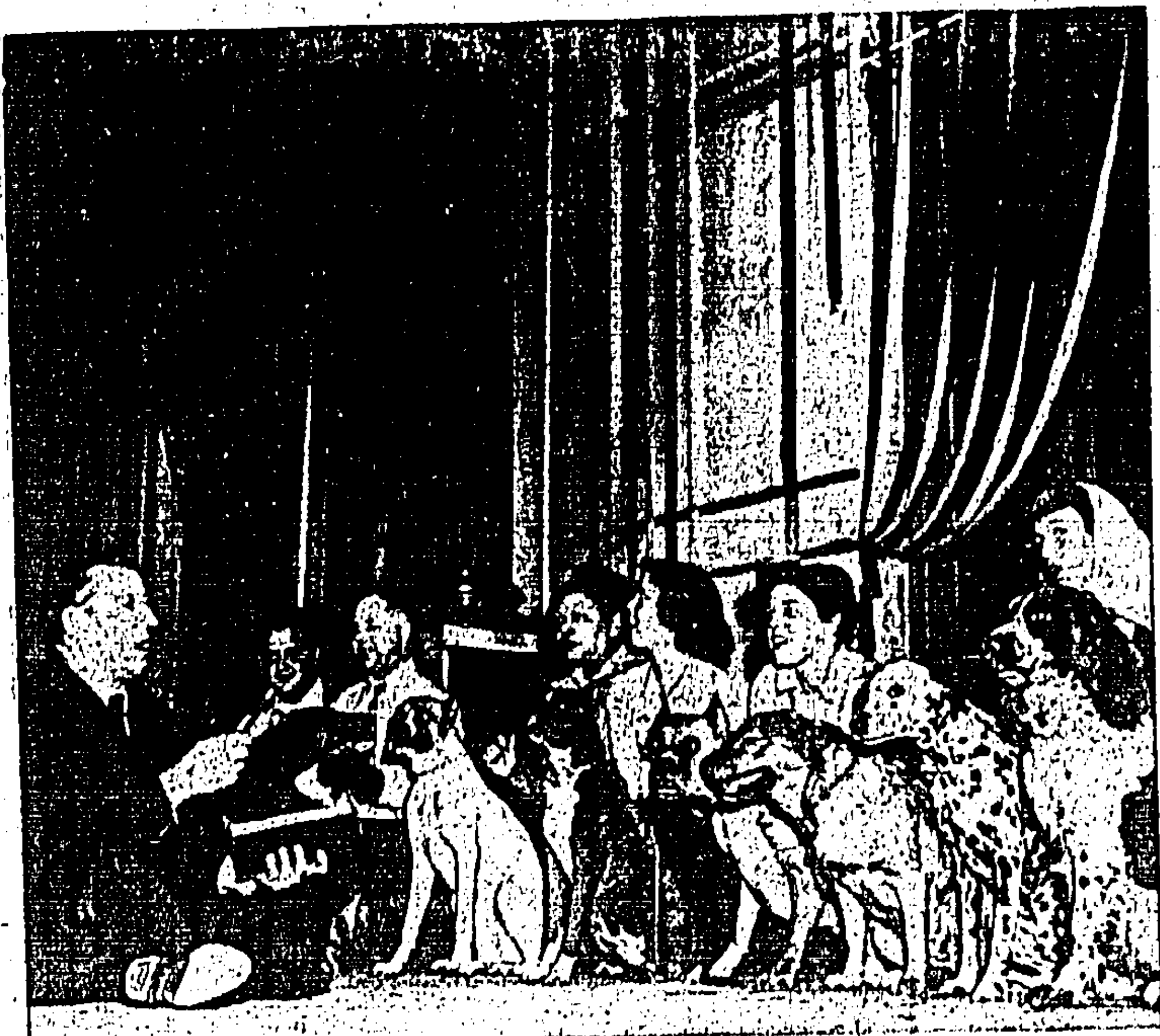


Screen star Margaret O'Brien, who is visiting Britain, holds some dolls she will distribute to children in England. Margaret is accompanied on the trip by her mother who was recently married for the second time.

EXTRA—A beauty pick-up, too!

For new, special-occasion glamour, "re-style" your face with this 1-Minute Mask—cover face, except eyes, with snowy, cool Pond's Vanishing Cream. After just one minute, wipe off. Your skin looks lighter, smoother, brighter!

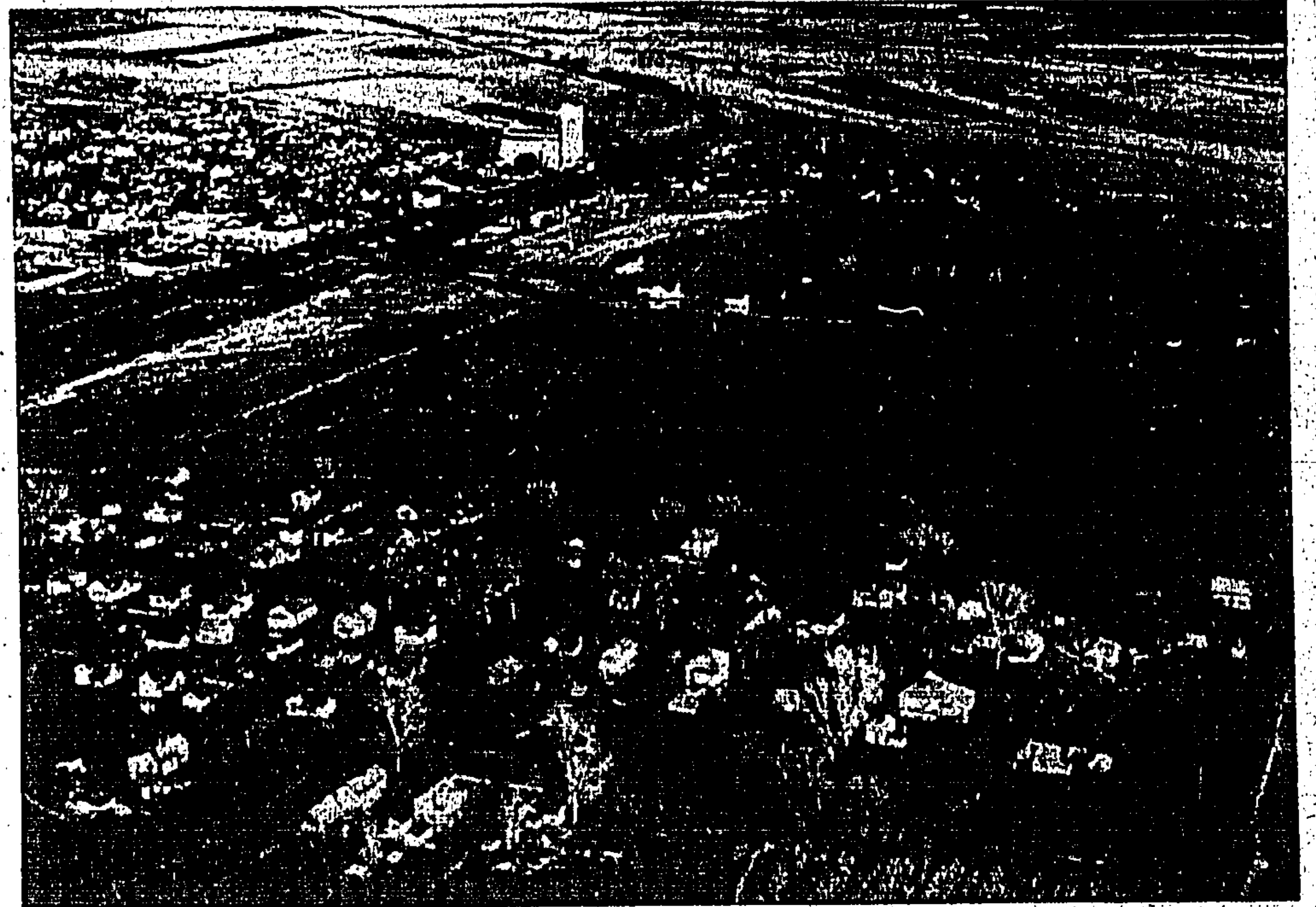
WORLD NEWS IN PICTURES



DOG SCHOOL—These dogs attend a training school in Cleveland, Ohio, to get "higher education." One night a week, for 10 weeks and a US\$10 tuition fee, trainer August Bosch, left, instructs his class in advanced obedience and other graces.



POPULAR—This is Virginia Mayo, Danny Kaye's favourite leading lady, who has just won another competition sponsored by an American swimsuit manufacturer.



MIDWEST GETS SPRING FLOODS—More than 140 families were forced to flee from this section of Missouri Valley, Indiana, when flood waters from the Boyer River swept over the city. The ice-jammed river became dangerous when the spring thaw set in. Invading other parts of the state, as well as towns in Illinois and Wisconsin, flood waters forced more than 1,000 Iowa residents from their homes. Further destruction may be expected with warmer weather.



FLYING IN—Arriving in New York, from Prague, are 22-month-old Harold Baselle and his new-found friend, Liv Mangschou, an airline hostess. Harold is going to Philadelphia to join his parents. His father, an ex-GI, met his Czech wife while she worked at the Nuremberg trials.



FOR GOLFING—This gabardine slack suit has been designed for the male golfer. The slacks have zip-bellow pockets for carrying balls and accessories, and the shirt has no cuffs.



NARROW ESCAPE—When it was struck by a runaway truck, this car hurtled across a six-foot sunken entry in Cincinnati, Ohio, and a front wheel went through the roof of a house, holding the car upright. Mrs. Edward Voll and her two-year-old grandson were in the room below the roof, but both escaped injury.



SO MUCH JUNK—New York firemen had a tough time with this junk warehouse fire on Third Avenue in Brooklyn. Affecting mostly old magazines and waste paper, the fire lasted for hours, despite efforts of the firemen, who continually played hoses on the ruined building.



FREED CONVICTS—These men were released from prison in Shanghai before finishing their sentences. Lack of sufficient food and fear for their safety under present war uncertainties prompted release.



VERSATILE—In New York, Mardie Bryant, the only known folk-singer and guitarist on skiffle, wears this costume in her act.



SCALE—Vera Kane, beauty contest winner from Wood, California, looks over some miniature objects that were part of the World Hobby Exposition in Illinois. Many hobby displays were shown in the collection.

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(Electric signs are to be restored—NEWS ITEM)

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THE STATE OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

by Group-Captain
H. S. L. DUNDAS, D.S.O., D.F.C.

THE Air Minister has announced in the House of Commons that Britain's jet fighter force is to be doubled during 1949.

At the time of the Battle of Britain we had 52 squadrons for home defence, of which 10 were Auxiliaries. Today I believe we have less than half that number of R.A.F. day and night fighter squadrons in the United Kingdom.

At present what squadrons we have are at half establishment, and will be able to fly 12 planes, with at least six more in reserve.

We also have 20 auxiliary squadrons manned by some of the most battle experienced pilots in the kingdom. Only two or three of these squadrons have even begun to re-equip with jet aeroplanes.

Their present equipment is entirely obsolete. And it seems certain they will not be re-equipped before many of the present generation of war-trained auxiliary pilots have grown too old for the job.

OUTFLOWN

YET this is the terrifying fact. Hundreds of our jet fighters have been sold abroad.

The Vampire V. and Meteor IV. are great aircraft. But it may be that as a result of rapid strides now being made in America, they will be old-fashioned before long.

The Americans went all out to build a plane which would fly through the speed of sound, and they succeeded.

We had such a plane designed in 1945, but some unadventurous chair-borne warrior in Whitehall decided that it would be too dangerous even to make the experiment of flying it.

So three years were frittered away while trials were carried out with pilotless aircraft launched from Mosquitoes.

The Minister of Supply announced with a great fanfare last January that one of our robot planes had flown faster than the speed of sound. But months before this an American pilot-machine had done the same thing.

I know that the British aircraft industry has plenty of ideas for supersonic planes, and that one or two new types are flying which are far in advance of the Meteors and Vampires. We do not lack ideas, but we are slow in putting them into practice.

U.S. AHEAD

I would say that for every one of our experimental types the Americans have half a dozen flying every day.

Apart from the Bell XI, which is believed to fly at about 1,000 m.p.h. and which recently climbed to 23,000 feet in one minute 40 seconds, they hold the absolute speed record at sea level with a standard P36 fighter. The speed was 670 m.p.h.

Mr Henderson, the Air Minister, stalled off his critics in the House of Commons with irrelevant pontifications about "revolutionary developments" which, he added, would take time.

He instanced pressurised cabins, without which a pilot, however great his oxygen supply, becomes unconscious above 45,000 feet. I can assure the Air Minister that there is nothing revolutionary about pressurised cabins. I piloted a pressurised fighter (Spitfire Mark VI.) in 1942.

Is the position in Bomber Command any better?

Mr Henderson has said that we shall have a jet bomber this year. He added that the time needed to develop a heavy bomber of this type had made it necessary to order a twin jet as a stop-gap.

He implied that this intermediate machine has not yet flown. This is true, though I believe that at least one prototype may soon be ready.

It does not take a master spy to find out that there is little prospect of these intermediate machines going into squadron service in any quantity before 1951.

As for the multi-jet heavy bombers—which, incidentally, are being built by a firm that has never before produced an aeroplane—it is my belief that the R.A.F. will have to wait several years before they are delivered to squadrons.

In the meanwhile, if Bomber Command is to survive, we will have to re-equip with American planes. These may be Superfortresses, already considered obsolete by the U.S.A.A.F.

The Americans, on the other hand, have produced several superb new bombers since the war.

There is the Convair B 36. The same size and weight as the B-29, this huge piston-engine bomber is now being turned out in large numbers. A short time ago it flew 9,100 miles non-stop, and dropped a simulated bomb load weighing two tons somewhere beyond the halfway mark.

Slung under its belly, it carries its own protective fighter plane.

Last month, within 24 hours, two multi-jet bombers of the

U.S.A.A.F. demonstrated their speed and range.

A Boeing Stratofortress flew 2,289 miles in 220 minutes at a height of 30,000ft, and a Northrop flying wing XB 49 flew 2,258 miles in 4hrs. 25 mins.

The first can carry ten tons of bombs, the second 15 tons. Britain has no such aircraft, and will not have them next year or perhaps even the year after.

FOR YOUTH

I am convinced that, given the opportunity by the Government, the R.A.F. can rise again to the glorious heights of efficiency and achievement which characterised it between 1939 and 1945.

To accomplish this we must let the inventive genius of our designers be exploited to produce the best and fastest planes in the world.

And we must let youth, well paid and with good conditions of service, have its head in the R.A.F.

The Americans recognised long ago that the air arm is no place for promotion by senility.

Women can take this play—but the men weep

By **FREDERICK COOK**

MAKING people laugh, Broadway is discovering this season, is a pretty serious business. Most theatregoers if you asked them why they go would almost certainly say to be made to laugh, but New York's current crop of successes doesn't bear them out at all.

Almost without exception the real hits are all harrowing, all full of cruelty and death.

"Street Car Named Desire" has been packing the theatre now for 15 months. "Anne of the Thousand Days" is grimly beautiful, grim, but grim all the same—from start to finish. The season's big hit, "Death of a Salesman," comes so near to fundamentals that many of the audience weep—especially the men.

The tragedy of the little man who blew himself up so high with his own illusion of greatness that his dreams finally blew up in his face, is more than many of the men face to face with the unrelenting hunt for the dollar, can take.

It is odd, but quite understandable that women have been able to take a more detached view of its essential tragedy.

Of all the plays on Broadway this season I would nominate

this one as most likely to last. Tickets are still being sold on the black market for £10 to £12 each.

Sidney Kingsley has a new play opening—a detective story. Background is a New York police station.

The plot centres around a man for whom life has no fine shades of meaning—it is all black or shining white.

The theme—that such men in high places are dangerous, that goodness and high moral principles are deadly without a tempering of humanity.

Ralph Bellamy, who won Broadway fame with State of the Union, is the star.

Apart from Bellamy's return there isn't much along Broadway.

The town's real attraction has been an exhibition over at the public library just on the rim of the bright light sector, a showing of remarkable first books by English authors.

This has been drawing the crowds like a movie first night—especially the writing end of a message especially for them, that there's nothing new in a struggling young writer paying out of his own pocket to have his writings published.

There was Thomas Hardy, for instance, who, it seems, paid 27s to have his "Desperate Remedies" printed in 1871.

There was a youngster called James Barrie, who peddled his

Myths about childbirth

By **SIDNEY RODIN**

THE hullabaloo in Parson had gone on to dis-hament over Mr. cover chloroform, and so the Queen took chloroform for the arrival of the Prince Bill is not the first occasion that a move to relieve pain in childbirth has caused public uproar.

A century ago when the idea was first tried out it was denounced from hundreds of pulpits as "a decoy of Satan."

Horrid preachers quoted Genesis wherein is written "In sorrow thou shalt bring forth children." Mothers were shocked at this "flying in the face of divine providence."

And doctors and midwives warned that the use of chloroform, "an intoxicant," would lead to frightful debaucheries in the lying-in room.

Sir James Young Simpson, the son of a Scots banker, was the man responsible for all the fuss.

In Edinburgh, on January 17, 1847, he was the first man to deliver a baby with the mother unconscious from a dose of ether.

The patient was so delighted that she called her girl-child Anaesthesia; and there still exists the portrait of herself which Anaesthesia, sent to Simpson on her eighteenth birthday.

ADAM'S RIB

When the Church in Scotland upbraided him for what he had done, Simpson answered: "God used a similar device in extracting a rib from Adam, for did He not throw Adam into a deep sleep?"

Queen Victoria, having already suffered the pangs of delivering seven children, had long talks with Simpson before her eighth, Prince Leopold, was due. Finding ether not entirely satisfactory, Simp-

OLD SUPERSTITION

One old superstition for which the medical profession has respect was the giving of raspberry leaf tea to expectant mothers.

This, they found, was a good idea, for raspberry leaf is rich in vitamin C.

In Lancashire it is still believed by many women that if they want to have a male child their husbands must wear boots at the time of conception.

Some mothers think that swellings on the right side of their bodies indicate their baby will be a boy.

Even if their right eye is brighter, they think this so, yet there is no scientific evidence to support it.

Midwives report that in certain country districts mothers during confinement sleep with a piece of metal under their pillows. This is a relic of the days when metal was said to ward off "the evil eye."

Until late in the 18th century men doctors were not allowed to do midwifery except under a "modesty blanket." This was tied to the patient and round the obstetrician's neck "so that the mother is not ashamed."

BURNED AT STAKE

In the 17th century a Dr. Weert, of Zurich, was burned at the stake for witnessing the birth of a baby without a blanket.

Miss Edith Dare, until recently matron of Queen Charlotte's Maternity Hospital, says the rapid advance of antenatal work during the last half century has killed all old wives' tales about birth.

"The only tale," she says, "that I have told thousands of mothers is this: Have everything bright and cheerful when you are going to have a baby. If you haven't got a garden, get a box and plant some seeds for your window sill."

"If you can't go away for a holiday, change your furniture around. Happiness brings forth happy children."

NANCY

The New Look

HERE COMES FAT SLUGGO

WHY THE BIG SHOES?

TO CHEER ME UP

I'VE BEEN SO DEPRESSED SINCE I GOT FAT--

NOW I CAN SEE MY FEET AGAIN

By Ernie Bushmiller

IF IT ITCHES USE **Fitch's**

Fitch's SHAMPOO

SOLE AGENTS: NAN KANG CO., UNION BUILDING

COLONY BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIPS By "SIDELINER"

ROBERT TAY IN ALL THREE SENIOR FINALS

Champions are in a class by themselves and this was aptly proved by Robert Tay, reigning Colony Champion, at the Club de Recreio last evening when first, partnering Patrick Wong, he entered the final of the Senior Men's Doubles by defeating Charles Au & W. F. Foo, in three gruelling sets and then, later in the evening, defeating Bill Funk in straight games to enter the Senior Men's Singles final.

Tay is now to contest three finals, having already passed into the final of the Senior Mixed Doubles with Miss Marie Ribeiro on Wednesday, and is a firm favourite to be the Triple Crown King of the Colony Badminton Championships for 1949.

Taking the court in the Singles game against Bill Funk less than two hours after a three-game doubles match, Tay was considerably handicapped but his triumph over Funk proved him to be a player of high calibre.

Both players started off confidently but Tay dropped returns of Funk's smashes which, crossing the net with less than an inch to spare, gave him the lead at 5-0. Funk won the next point when Tay netted and then the shuttle changed hands seven times before Tay won the first set 15-10.

Resuming the exchanges of services both players threw discretion to the winds and the smashing rallies which ensued, with both players trying to blast each other off the court with power, will long be remembered.

Tay was forced to bring all the strokes at his command into play when he found Funk refused to buckle under his smashes. Tay led 11-5 but Funk staged a grand rally to bring the score to 11-10.

He then made two errors on Tay's service, netting his returns through inability to keep up the fast pace.

Tay also was breathing hard and apparently was feeling the strain when Funk drew on his reserves and deuced the game at 13-11 with several tremendous smashes which found the sidelines.

He won the first two of the required 5 points before losing the service. Then Tay brought his cross-court drops into play with telling effect and reeled off five points for the first game.

It could be seen that both players were tiring with perhaps Funk the more weary of the two. However it was Funk who took the offensive in the second game while Tay replied on drops and forced Funk to play on the run. The fast pace of the first game told greatly on Funk's play and he stroked to an 8-1 and then an 11-3 lead. From this point it was seen that Funk had shot his bolt and Tay ran out winner of game and match 18-15, 15-4.

SENIOR MEN'S DOUBLES

In the Senior Men's Doubles—Robert Tay and Patrick Wong v. Charles Au and W. F. Foo—Tay and Wong proved victorious 15-10, 11-15, 15-6.

Wong was displaying indifferent form while Tay, after winning the first game, made many costly errors through taking it too easy while Au & Foo combined well to take the game at 15-11.

Tay and Wong began to play their strokes at Au, deeming him the weaker player of the two, but in several rallies Au more than held his own.

Foo was in fine form last evening but the Tay-Wong combination took no chances in the deciding game. Although Wong was inclined to 'punch' and put off Tay's smashing strokes the combination held long enough to win the deciding 15-6 when Wong suddenly found his form and smashed many winners to the baseline.

JUNIOR MIXED DOUBLES

It appeared to most of those present that after winning the initial game against D. C. Lau & Miss Helen Kwong, the Ribeiro pair, C. Quinn & Miss Yolande Franco, would be certain finalists but Quinn fell off his game to such an extent that all the opposing pair had to do was to play the shuttle to him and he would either net his return or smash it out.

Miss Kwong, a newcomer to Hongkong badminton, had an attack of cold nerves and could do nothing right in the first game, but pulled herself together in the second and third, making ample amends for her mistakes with strong smashes and cross-court drops.

Miss Franco really excelled at the net but left too much to her partner in the second and third game. She could have helped to take the pressure off the tiring Quinn, which might have helped him over the rough-

er stages of the game, and allowed him time to recover his form.

JUNIOR MEN'S DOUBLES

T. E. Rodrigues, partnering F. M. Ribeiro against C. Y. Yung and K. P. Chang, was a match on his game that during the whole match he made only five smashes which were effective. It was largely due to the fine play of Ribeiro that the first game went to extra points but the Ribeiro pair finally lost out 18-17, 15-8.

EXHIBITION TENNIS

Changes in the tennis exhibition matches between Hongkong and three members of the Paris tennis team have been made necessary due to the late arrival of the French star, Dubuc, who will now arrive on Monday. The other two members of the team, Van Sau and Duong have already arrived.

The revised programme is as follows:—

At CRC tomorrow: 3.15 p.m. Van Sau v. Tsui Wai-pul or Tsui Yan-pul; 4.30 p.m. Duong v. Ip Koon-hung.

At CRC on Sunday: 3 p.m. Duong v. Tsui Wai-pul or Tsui Yan-pul; 4.30 p.m. Van Sau v. Ip Koon-hung; 6 p.m. Van Sau and Duong v. Tsui brothers or Ip Koon-hung and W. C. Chey. The matches scheduled to be played at the Hongkong Cricket Club on Monday and Tuesday have been put back to Wednesday and Thursday. Full details of the change in programme will be published later.

The exhibition games at the CRC are all best of three sets. Charges for admission are \$5 for seats and \$2 standing.

KCC Tournament

As the Kowloon Cricket Club's circulars announcing the tennis tournaments have only just been circulated to members and as so many intending competitors have mentioned that they have not had time to get in any practice, the Tennis Committee have decided to postpone the closing date for entries for the Spring Tennis Handicaps to Friday, April 8 and that play will commence immediately after Easter.

In all, five events will be held and they are ladies singles and doubles handicaps, men's singles and doubles handicaps and a mixed doubles handicap. Entry forms may be had on application to the hon. secy. Competitors who wish to have partners found for them are requested to get in touch with the Tennis Committee.

HKCC Final

R. Sogalen became the Singles Champion of the Hongkong Cricket Club yesterday when he defeated B. T. M. Jones 10-8, 4-6, 6-1 and 6-2.

Colony Doubles

On the Stand Court today at 4.30 p.m., the Colony Open Doubles final between the Tsui brothers and Lee Wai-tong and Ip Koon-hung will be played.

BASKETBALL

The following were the results of last night's Basketball League games at the SCAA Stadium, Caroline Hill:

"A" DIVISION	
Union	33 Chinese
WYCA	52
"B" DIVISION	
South China	27 Chung Sing 30
Pat Tat	37 Lal Hang 18

Mister Conquest



HOME-STATE HONOURS



Featherweight champion of the world, Hartford's Willie Pep (left, with sun glasses), who regained his title from Sandy Sadler in a New York fight, receives a silver trophy from Connecticut Gov. Chester Bowles (right) at the State Capitol. Behind the two are State Boxing Commissioner Billy Prince (second from left) and Kid Kaplan (second from right), former featherweight champ.—AP Wirephoto.

Scollins-Bucks Fight Features Tomorrow's Golden Gloves Card

By "KAYO CURLY"

Welcome, fight fans! All roads lead to the spacious China Fleet Club Theatre tomorrow night when the Golden Gloves Sports Club, purveyors of thrill-a-minute fight cards, stage one of the biggest fistic shows of the current boxing season. A well-matched seven bout programme, with a weight-lifting exhibition chucked in for your money's worth, greets fight fans who foregather at the arena for this evening of fisticuffs.

Promoter Jim Rainey has assembled a galaxy of boxing stars on tomorrow's card and there is every indication that those who pack the Fleet Club theatre will go away after the final gong has halted the proceedings, with nothing but praise for the battle-scarred combatants.

Hongkong's own Ramsey Bucks, the prodigal son who returned to the fold after several years of sojourning around Shanghai and the Northern ports, will step into the ring for the main bout of the card. Bucks will toss leather with battering Tom Scollins, pride of HMS "London", in a six-round battle. Bucks was slated to tangle with locally renowned Bob Pulling, Golden Boy of the Royal Navy, in the top fight but, owing to a great difference in their weights, as Bucks scales 132 lbs. while Pulling had to bring himself down from 148 to 142 lbs. by gong time, the fight was withdrawn from the programme. Local boxing fans, had waited through the years for a Bucks-Pulling scrap but unfortunately their hopes cannot be realised. However, another suitable opponent has been found for the speedy Bucks. The crafty

local laurels against the best the "London" Petty Officer can offer.

Tom Scollins is the possessor of a wicked right haymaker and has a long ring career, which includes several topnotch triumphs over the leading light-weight performers of the amateur world.

21 VICTORIES

He has 21 wins chalked up on his tally card against 4 re-

WEIGHT-LIFTER



Valentine Knige, who will give a weight-lifting exhibition at the Golden Gloves Tournament at the China Fleet Club tomorrow night and will attempt to set new Colony records.

versals. He has been kayoed but once and that was when he succumbed on a TKO decision to A. B. Marsh of Portland way back in 1937.

His victories include points wins over Kid Pedraco, local boxer, in 1948, W. Smith, Malaya Champion in 1948, LGNR Serich, Saigon champion, in 1946, E. M. Copeland, Cochinchina champion in 1945, and Ceylon's Lightweight titleholder, A.I. Obeysheere, in 1939.

Scollins has his heart set on outpunching Bucks from the spotlight tomorrow night. He has the courage of a lion and should give fight fans lots of action when he wades into Bucks. The Bucks-Scollins bout should wind up in a slugfest with the win probably going to the boxer with the greater endurance.

Fans will be treated to another dog-eat-dog tussle when Local boy Al Mallig climbs into the ring to tangle with Gunner O'Shea of the Royal Navy in a three-round lightweight scrap. This is a return bout between these two batters. Both are red-hot fighters who toss hard punches. The verdict will be

a close one and the bout should be packed with action.

Youthful Liu Hongkong son of well-known sportsman C. Quo, clashes with A.B. Priest of HMS "Belfast" in another sizzling encounter. Liu is a speedy artist and is a southpaw whose style may worry the enemy. He will be out to stop the sailor while Priest is quite confident of bringing home the bacon. This is a flyweight affair.

The battle of the giants will take place in the third tilt of the card when an all-"London" battle will feature Williams against George Upjohn of the same naval vessel. This is a re-match. Williams won the first scrap but Upjohn is out to reap vengeance. With the Inter-Services series just around the corner, these two fighters will be hep to showing off their talents.

A bruising encounter will bring Hongkong's Tony Silva into the ring with LSA Chanter of HMS Hart in a welterweight bout. Both fighters can give and take punishment. Chanter, though giving away poundage, is a consistent winner and worth a bet every time he goes to the post. Silva is a hot number and a terrific hitter. It should be an action-jammed tussle.

TIENTSIN GIANT

The local Police Force boasts a giant boxer in Tientsin's Yeung Wing Hoi who will tangle Leading Patrolman Hoove, HMS "Tamar" in a middleweight contest. Yeung packs dynamite in both fists and is out to give Reeve the run of the mill. Reeve can tag his opponent with a tough sock. These two boxers are evenly matched and a good bout is expected.

The Royal Navy's one and only Bob Pulling, fighting in the welter class, will fight a yet unannounced opponent in an exhibition tussle as a prelude to the main bout of the fight card. Pulling should be usual flash up a flashy performance to the delight of his large partisan following.

During the interval between the fights, the youthful Valentine Knige will give a weight-lifting exhibition of the three World Olympic lifts: the two hand military press, the two hand clean and jerk, and the two hand snatch. Val weighs 148 lbs. and will toss up 150 lbs. in the two-hand press, another 160 lbs. in the snatch, and will do a clean jerk of 230 lbs.

The Commissioner of Police, Mr. D. W. Macintosh, will present the prizes at the conclusion of the fistic card. Report emanating from the box office predict a sell-out for tomorrow's programme. The Golden Gloves promoters have spared no pains in tuning up one of the biggest boxing shows for a long time. Boxing is on the threshold of a big local uplift and boxing enthusiasts should come forward now and support the efforts of the hard-working organisers.

Khalsa Hockey XI

The following have been selected to represent the Khalsa Sports Club in the hockey fixture against Dockyard R.C. on Sunday, at 10.30 a.m. on the RNRCC (1) Ground, King's Park: Makhan Singh; A. E. P. Guest; Yacoub Khan; J. S. Dillon; M. H. Hassan; Mohinder Singh; G. W. P. Guest; "Khalo Nuggel" Ebrahim, S. Ningo, Subedar Ghagat Singh, and R. Mickey.

PAY FOR SOCCER STARS

Babe Ruth Thought System Was "Queer"

By JOHN MACADAM

One of the arguments that has always been used by proselytising pundits in the sacred cause of Higher Pay for Soccer Stars has, for many winters of our discontent, been the relatively higher shekel-rate of the American baseball player.

We recall distinctly taking the late Babe Ruth to Highbury and having him ask who was the little guy with the long pants and how much more did he get than all the other guys.

"That is Alex James," we told the so-called Sultan of Swat, famed in his own national game as the greatest home-run king of them all, and he gets just the same amount of money as the rest of the players on the field."

Ruth watched for another couple of minutes as the little man gyrated, and then he said: "It's crazy."

Considering that Babe Ruth took a dollar millionaire's fortune out of his game and Alex James did not, his comment appeared at the time to be completely justified.

Yet, here is U.S. columnist Dan Parker—an old sword-crozier who once described us as a little guy who didn't know his own strength—claiming that the British Soccer contract is a better parchment than the baseball one.

OFF THE RAILS

This, from Dan, is quite something and can bear consideration, for the gentleman is not inclined to bend over backward in defence of these here parts.

He quotes one Jimmy Mills, one-time British pro, and now manager of Philadelphia Nationals Soccer side, as saying that British Soccer juniors of promise are approached, bonus in hand, by professional managers and contracted for a weekly salary in the playing season and another weekly salary in the close season.

Then Dan gets slightly off the rails by declaring that the youngster gets a proportion of the sale price (as he calls it) on transfer to another professional side. The fact is, of course, that if he does get a cut on transfer he is breaking not only the articles of football association, but also three of the Commandments—as some of them are alleged to do.

Main interest, however, is in the section in which Dan makes it clear that a Soccer player can refuse to be transferred, where, as a baseball man who will not allow himself to be sold to another club can be suspended.

"The club," he says, "is under no obligation to give him part of the sale price, or, of course, in order to get a player's approval of a deal that will benefit the club, a manager will often give him a share of the money received for his contract..."

CONTRASTS

In Soccer, a player can spend the best years of his life in the topclass game and then finish his days with a non-League or an amateur club as player-coach. In major league baseball, a player cannot be returned to the equivalent minors, without his consent after ten years' senior service.

Dan contrasts this happily with the five-yearly benefit which the British pro is entitled, and he would no doubt be happier still at the 10 per cent, provident fund the Players' Union has.

IRC To Celebrate

To celebrate their success in annexing the Second Division championship of the Hongkong Cricket League, the Indian Recreation Club will be holding a subscription dinner at the Clubhouse at 7.30 p.m. to-morrow. A charge of \$5 per head will be made and members desiring to take part are requested to make their reservations with the bar boy.

On Sunday, a tea dance will be held from 4 to 6.30 p.m. A nominal entrance fee of \$1 per head will be charged.

wrung from the Soccer hierarchy.

Soccer players, says Dan, get £10 a week (actually £12, plus £2 for a win and £1 for a draw, plus Cup talent money at varying rates), and ball players have to play about 30 games a month for not much more per game. And there is no close-season pay. Dan finds only one thing in the ball player's favour—the climate in which he works.

What Wembley Means In

Tax Revenue

London, Mar. 31.—What Wembley means to the British Government was shown at the Wembley Company's annual general meeting, when the Chairman and Managing Director, Sir Arthur Elvin, said that the tax authorities had last year received over £670,000 from the activities of the sporting events held in the main stadium and Empire Pool.

Of this sum, greyhound racing taxations accounted for over £227,000, entertainment tax £116,000, income and profits tax over £68,000 and local rates over £68,000.

The total were down more than £100,000 being only £106,880 against £267,050 in 1947.

These facts and figures do not take into account the Olympic Games held during August in the main "Olympic" Stadium and Empire Pool.

During the games, the company gave the use of both arenas and other property and the services of the permanent staff free of charge, but they received compensation for the loss of profit through the cancellation of the company's normal sporting activities during the Olympics.

Representations have been made to the Government to reduce the 10 per cent tax on greyhound racing and to the local authorities to reduce the rating assessment.—Reuter.

Pickworth Leads

Australian Golf Tournament

Sydney, Mar. 31.—J. Pickworth, the Australian Open Golf Champion, with a 69, three under par, headed the field at the end of the first day's play in the McWilliams Open Tournament for which prize money totals £2,000. Bill Holder was lying second with 70 and Norman Von Nida shared third position with P. Thomson, the 19-year-old Victorian amateur, each with 72. The second round of the tournament is to be played to-morrow and the final on April 2.—Reuter.

Bobby Locke Enters British Open

London, Mar. 31.—Bobby Locke, the South African golf champion, has entered for the British open golf championship, to be played at Deal, Kent, in July.—Reuter.

Middlesex CCC

Makes Profit

London, Mar. 31.—The Middlesex County Cricket Club reported today it made a profit of £4,787 in the season, 1948.—Associated Press.

Rugger Result

London, Mar. 31.—In the Rugby Union match today, Gloucester beat Blackheath by 22 points to three.—Reuter.

HANCOCK SHIELD MATCH

The close-of-season Hancock Shield match between the Hongkong Cricket Club and the Kowloon Cricket Club will be played at Chater Road over the week-end, play commencing at 2 p.m. on Saturday and at 11 a.m. on Sunday.

The first match in the series at the beginning of the season was drawn.

The teams will be:

HKCC	
L. F. Stokes	
L. D. Kilbee	
O. J. Kerr	
T. A. Pearce (Captain)	
N. R. Oliver	
R. W. Franklin	
H. M. Newton	
G. T. Rowe	
T. P. Mahon	
R. S. Cull	
and	
D. McLellan	

KCC	
W. M. Davidson	
N. Hart-Baker	
A. Zimmer	
Capt. W. D. N. Webb	
E. C. Fincher	
T. A. Madar	
G. E. Taylor	
J. Barrow	
V. C. Bond	
R. E. Leed (Captain)	
and	
Lt. A. Stepio	

SOVIET ATTACK ON IRO

Accused Of Dealing In Cheap Slave Labour

London, Mar. 31.—Russia today accused the International Refugee Organisation (IRO) of dealing in "cheap slave labour" for the benefits of certain Western countries.

In the course of a Four-Power discussion on an Austrian independence treaty, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Georgi N. Zarubin asserted that the IRO is not fulfilling its job of repatriating persons displaced by the war.

It has been transformed, he said, into a body which is providing cheap slave labour for certain Western countries.

Powerful New Bug Killers

100 Times Deadlier Than DDT

San Francisco, Mar. 31.—Powerful new insecticides, one of them one hundred times more deadly than DDT, and a plastic wafer covering that can be stripped off when contaminated with radio-activity were among the latest technical developments outlined to the American Chemical Society yesterday.

About 5,000 chemists and chemical engineers, including 200 women scientists, attended the third of this five-day session of the Society's 115th national meeting.

"This is a new age in insecticide chemistry," Dr. Don Hish told the gathering as four new experimental pesticides were disclosed.

Two of them, known as "BNB" and "BNP" are said to be five times more potent to insects than DDT and yet provide greater immunity to the farmer, his animals and his crops.

LETHAL COMPOUND

Another product, only as Compound 497, is particularly lethal to household and cockroaches and is one hundred times more deadly than DDT.

A companion product, Compound 118, is highly toxic to grasshoppers.

Two Dupont chemists said: "There are some important pests for which there are no satisfactory chemical controls and there still is great need for more efficient safer chemicals."

Dr. A. Carleton Jealous described experimental wall coverings now being tested at the atomic energy laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

The laboratory walls are covered with three coats of dense paint and over that is sprayed a thin rubbery film known as "cocoon." Dr. Jealous said when this coating absorbs highly dangerous radio-activity it is stripped off and replaced with new layers.—United Press.

JAP OFFICERS EXECUTED

Guam, Mar. 31.—Rear Admiral Shimppei Asano, former Japanese fleet surgeon, and Commander Chisato Ueno, former medical officer on Truk, were hanged on Thursday for the execution of two unidentified American airmen on Truk in 1944.

Both were convicted by an American Military Tribunal in October, 1947.

Buddhist and Catholic priests were flown from Tokyo to administer last rites to the Japanese naval officers. No details of the hangings were disclosed.—Associated Press.

DESTROYERS FOR INDIA

Bombay, Mar. 31.—A contingent of 300 Royal Indian naval officers and men left Bombay for Britain today in the 10,700-ton liner Ranchi to collect three destroyers recently acquired by India from Britain.

The men, headed by Lieutenant Commander Mahan L. Barun, will bring the destroyers to India after repairs, now being carried out in a British shipyard, are completed.

Sixteen Royal Indian naval cadets also left in the Ranchi for naval training in Britain.—Reuter.

The Soviet accusation was made during a discussion by the Four Big Powers Foreign Ministers on whether a special provision should be written into the treaty obligating Austria to help the voluntary repatriation of displaced persons and refugees.

The United States and Britain opposed writing into the treaty any clause which would bind Austria to support the repatriation of the estimated 600,000 displaced persons and refugees.

IRO DEFENDED

The IRO was created under the Charter as an agency affiliated with the United Nations. It has organized the dispatch of large groups of displaced persons and refugees to various countries, including Britain, to work as farm labourers and factory operators.

The American Deputy, Sir Samuel Reider, defended the IRO. He said it is in fact fulfilling the principles laid down in its Charter.

The British Deputy, Mr. James A. Marjorbank, said that between VE-day and mid-1947, Soviet repatriation missions in the British zone of Austria had been able to persuade only 58,000 Soviet citizens to go home. From mid-1947 to the end of 1948, he said, 161 Soviet citizens went back. And in the first three months of this year, nobody went back.

Mr. Marjorbank did not say how many Russian citizens there were in the British zone.

These displaced persons had been taken from their homes in Russia during the war and forced to work in German-occupied Europe.

Mr. Marjorbank adjourned without taking any decision on the article. They will meet again on Friday to discuss the military clauses of the Austrian Treaty.—Associated Press.

MEAT PACT LIQUIDATED

Buenos Aires, Mar. 31.—A note from the Argentine Government, "liquidating" the Andes Meat Agreement with Britain, was handed to Sir John Balfour, the British Ambassador here, to-night. The contents were not disclosed.

Meanwhile, Britain and Argentina continue their negotiations for a new meat pact. But authoritative British sources said here that unless Argentina modified her demands for higher meat prices, the prospect of reaching agreement will be "extremely remote."

The Argentine reports that the British trade delegation had yielded to Argentine demands for higher meat prices as "non-sense."

WANT HIGH PRICE

On the basis of a press conference held by the Foreign Minister, Dr. Juan Bramuglia, the Buenos Aires press reported that Argentina intended to ask "well over double" the prices set under the Andes Pact. Senior Bramuglia was also reported to have said that after today Argentina would not be able to deliver much over 10,000 tons of meat monthly, until an agreement had been reached on future prices.

This compares with the 35,000 tons monthly stipulated in the Andes Agreement.

The Argentine Ministry of Labour today ordered wage increases to encourage the more than 100,000 workers in the meat industry. The increases, enlarging by more than 50 per cent the present wages, are to be retrospective to February.—Reuter.

Govt. Employees Demonstrate

Rangoon, Mar. 31.—Thirty-seven picketing civil servants were injured yesterday when the police drove out 400 government employees who staged a protest demonstration against the cost of living allowance cuts.

The police hurled tear gas bombs into the midst of the demonstrators when they blocked the entrances to the American and Pakistan Embassies.—United Press.



'BEEFEATER'S DAUGHTER WEDS — Yeoman Warder John Burrows, Tower of London 'Beefeater,' escorts his daughter, Betha, to her wedding in the Tower Chapel, London.

U.S. Govt. Not Obstructing British Socialism

MP GIVES IMPRESSIONS OF AMERICA

London, Mar. 31.—There was widespread belief among Americans that the Truman Administration was obstructing Socialism in Britain and Western Europe. Mr. Richard Crossman, Socialist Member of Parliament, said on his return from the United States today.

Mr. Crossman added that he had told them there was no justification for this belief.

Mr. Crossman, Parliament's most controversial left winger, said in an exclusive interview with Reuters today: "People were constantly asking me whether Britain was successfully resisting Washington attempts to hold back socialisation. I had to reply that so far as I knew no such attempts had been made."

He added that few Americans seemed to appreciate not merely the success of the Marshall Plan, but the diplomatic skill and good faith of Mr. Paul G. Hoffman, the European Co-operation Administrator, and his staff in refraining from interference in the domestic policies of Britain and other Marshall aid countries.

Mr. Crossman spent five weeks studying labour conditions in the United States. During his tour, Mr. Crossman made a special study of conditions in seven cities—Pittsburg, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, Kansas City, New Orleans and Atlanta (Georgia).

"No single man has done more than he to make America a better place," Mr. Crossman observed. He was impressed by "the astonishing speed with which American labour has grown to maturity," a view based on his interviews with representatives of trade unions.

"If it is not implemented," he said, "there may be a violent swing to isolationism, since the average American is bound to feel that he has as much right to social security as the British, who are benefiting from Marshall aid."

Mr. Crossman said that as a Socialist he felt bound to pay his tribute to the immense success which the Conservative leader, Mr. Winston Churchill, through his War Memoirs, had had in swinging America into a pro-British attitude.

"No single man has done more than he to make America a better place," Mr. Crossman observed. He was impressed by "the astonishing speed with which American labour has grown to maturity," a view based on his interviews with representatives of trade unions.

He added that the prevailing attitude was summed up by the Chairman of the United Fruit Corporation, one of the biggest in the United States, who said to him: "We know that if your experiment succeeds, we shall fall into line with you. It always happens."

Mr. Crossman said there was one respect at least in which the British worker had "set his sights" higher than the American worker, judging from the seven cities which he visited. That was in housing.

"In America, the housing shortage is still desperate, and private enterprise has lamentably failed to cure it," he declared. He thought that the need of the United States for housing and social security set a severe limit to the extension of American foreign assistance.

VITAL NECESSITY

"I doubt whether the taxpayer there will tolerate any large-scale lend-lease of armaments while he receives so little benefit from the taxes he pays," Mr. Crossman said, adding that in this sense, President Truman's "Fair Deal" programme was of vital necessity to Europe.

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LABOUR PREPARING

"Though it contributed largely to President Truman's victory last November," he added, "labour did not throw anything like its full strength into the campaign. But it is preparing already for decisive intervention in the mid-term 1950 elections."

Mr. Crossman, who was prominently identified with the Palestine controversy in Parliament, said that fortunately the Palestine issue loomed less importantly in the United States now than a few months ago.

"There is widespread realisation among thoughtful American Jews that the success of Israel depends on Anglo-American collaboration and not in exploiting Anglo-American friction," he said.

He thought there was a much better atmosphere which could only redound to the advantage of the new Israeli State, and that anti-British demonstrations, if they occurred, were the afterglow of a dying fire.—Reuter.

Jews Held In Arab Concentration Camps, Alleged

SUFFER "LIFE OF TERROR"

London, Mar. 31.—Israeli spokesman today charged Arab countries with subjecting Jews to a "life of terror" and holding them in concentration camps. A spokesman of the Israeli representative here alleged that, while the Israeli Government had recently set up a special committee to help Arab refugees in Israel, Jews in Arab countries were "subjected to a life of terror" and deprived of fundamental human rights.

He said that reports of 805,000 Arab refugees from Palestine were "greatly exaggerated" and thought it unlikely that there were more than half a million.

(United Nations sources estimated their number in February at 720,000).

Another Israeli official charged Egypt and Iraq with keeping Jews in concentration camps. Such camps had in the past also existed in Syria and the Lebanon, he said.

The spokesman urged the resettlement of Arab refugees in under-developed Arab States.

He said this would probably be cheaper than their re-absorption in Palestine.

Denying that the Jews had attacked the Arabs and driven them out after the British mandate ceased, he said it was the Arabs who assaulted Jewish civilians during the last months of British rule.

The spokesman thought the security and fate of the Jews in Arab States would have to be considered in any final settlement in Palestine.

Commenting on an official Israeli offer of compensation for Arab property, he said many Arabs who had fled did not possess houses or land.

Israel would not shirk her responsibility but would play her part in any common action taken by the community of nations to relieve Arab refugee distress, the spokesman declared.—Reuter.

Less Subsidy For Steel Industry

London, Mar. 31.—Britain is to reduce the Government subsidy to the steel industry by £25 million, Mr. George Strauss, the Minister of Supply, announced today.

He told Parliament that the subsidies paid to meet the excess cost of imported finished steel and the import duties on pig iron and steel would be continued.

But as from tomorrow, the remaining subsidies on iron and steel would cease with an estimated saving to the Exchequer for the year 1949-50 of about £25 million.

MAXIMUM PRICES

Mr. Strauss also announced new maximum prices resulting from a review of the price structure of the industry by the Iron and Steel Board and the withdrawal of subsidies.

They were, he said, designed to provide no more than a reasonable return on capital employed to each section of the industry. On the best calculations possible, they would give no increase but probably some reduction in the total profits of the iron and steel industry.

The increases for most products were between £2 and £3 a ton.

He said industries in the main would still obtain their steel as cheaply as their principal overseas competitors.—Reuter.

Philippines Seek Air Agreements

Manila, Mar. 31.—The Philippine government has announced that it is to send a mission to negotiate permanent air transport agreements with Greece, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, India, The Philippines Air Lines Inc. now operates in all these countries under temporary traffic rights. It uses this route for its bi-weekly run to Europe.—Associated Press.

It is difficult to say where the responsibility lies, Fortune continues. But it blames the continuing failure of Japanese economy to function on "bureaucracy-bureaucracy, both American and Japanese, both military and civilian."

The unsigned article centres its criticism entirely on the economic situation in Japan. It is based on information from "U.S. businessmen who have tried to do business in Japan since the war" and by Mr. Joseph Z. Reddy, for three years in charge of the Industrial division of the economic and scientific section of SCAP, who "saw what was wrong but was unable to buck the system."

Fortune finds a ray of hope for the future in a directive of SCAP last December 10, announcing an economic stabilisation programme, rigorously concentrated on recovery measures, without a single new reform. The directive is a kind of confession. It sets up as new goals the very thing SCAP has supposedly been doing.—Associated Press.

PARTY ELECTS NEW LEADER

Madras, Mar. 31.—The Madras Congress legislature party today elected P. S. Kumaraswamy Raja as its leader replacing Ommandur Ramaswamy Reddy, whose Ministry resigned today.

The secured 105 votes against Doctor P. Subbaroyana's 89. The new Ministry with slight modifications in personnel, will be formed on Friday, the party secretary said.

Elaborate police precautions were made around the government house where the elections were held.—Associated Press.

POCKET CARTOON



"These references aren't very good, are they? I see that last cook-general says she hasn't got a car or a milk coat for my day off and she doesn't help with the washing-up!"

SHIPPING "WAR" British Lines To Fight Back

London, Mar. 31.—British shipping lines today announced their intention of "fighting back" against the Dutch proposals to accept cargo at slashed rates in British ports for shipment to India, Pakistan and Ceylon.

The United Netherlands Navigation Company yesterday carried the freight war line into Britain by announcing direct outward sailings of cargo vessels scheduled to land in the United Kingdom at rates cut by as much as 60 per cent of the British lines tariffs.

A British conference of shipping lines, including the P & O and India Steamship, was held immediately yesterday to decide the policy. The meeting is being continued today and a spokesman said it has been decided that the Dutch action was "unreasonable."

The spokesman added, "But it remains to be seen whether the Dutch will carry out their avowed intention or whether it is what we call a 'panic measure'."

The conference yesterday made it clear that all continental shippers seek only a stable freight rate and that all this chopping and altering of rates is harmful to the trade. The spokesman said, "We are now waiting for the next Dutch move."—United Press.

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